UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

Master Class in Song with Brett Polegato, baritone

Featuring singers from the Faculty of Music and pianist Jialiang Zhu.

Tuesday, October 14th, 2025, 12:10 - 2:00 pm | Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park

PROGRAM

The Vagabond (Songs of Travel)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)

Mathias Séror, *baritone* (Second-Year Undergraduate in Performance)

Après un rêve (Trois mélodies, Op. 7)

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Adam Przyjemski, *baritone* (Third-Year Undergraduate in Performance)

La belle jeunesse (Chansons gaillardes, FP 42)

Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)

Charlie Sadler, *baritone* (Second-Year Master's in Vocal Pedagogy)

Sanglots (Banalités, FP 107)

Francis Poulenc

Lucas Kalechstein, *baritone* (Third-Year Undergraduate in Performance)

Alternate:
Nebbie

Ottorino Respighi (1879–1936)

Vikram Srinivas, *baritone* (Third-Year Undergraduate in Performance)

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of the Faculty's commitment to improving Indigenous inclusion, we call upon all members of our community to start/continue their personal journeys towards understanding and acknowledging Indigenous peoples' histories, truths and cultures.
Visit indigenous.utoronto.ca to learn more.

Brett Polegato

Baritone

One of today's most sought-after lyric baritones on the international stage, Canadian-Italian Brett Polegato has earned the highest praise from audiences and critics for his artistic sensibility: "his is a serious and seductive voice" says The Globe and Mail, while the *New York Times* has praised him for his "burnished, well-focused voice" which he uses with "considerable intelligence and nuance." His career has encompassed over fifty operatic roles at the world's most prestigious venues, including La Scala, l'Opéra National de Paris, the Glyndebourne Festival, the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Houston Grand Opera, the Teatro Real, the Concertgebouw Amsterdam and Carnegie Hall.

Highlights in the 2025/2026 season include **Scarpia** *Tosca* with Pacific Opera Victoria and his return to Grange Park Opera in John Tavener's *The Play of Krishna*. In concert he performs a recital at the Salle Bourgie Montréal and Beethoven's Missa Solemnis with the Grand Philharmonic Choir and Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

Recent operatic highlights include his debuts at MusikTheater an der Wien (**Capulet** *Roméo et Juliette*), the Metropolitan Opera (**Brétigny** *Manon*), Wexford Festival Opera (**Dr Talbot** in the European premiere of William Bolcom's *Dinner at Eight*) and Longborough Festival Opera (**Golaud** *Pelléas et Mélisande*); title role ***The (R)evolution of Steve Jobs*** (Calgary Opera), **Fanuèl** in Boito's *Nerone* (Bregenzer Festspiele), **Posa** *Don Carlo*, title role ***Eugene Onegin*** and **Marcello** *La bohème* (Grange Park Opera); **Kurwenal** *Tristan und Isolde* (opera di Roma, Théâtre des Champs-Élysées and Opéra national de Bordeaux); his role debut as **Amfortas** *Parsifal* (Festival de Lanaudière); **Sharpless** (Irish National Opera); **Howie Albert** *Champion* (Opéra de Montréal); **Starbuck** *Moby Dick,* **Lieutenant Audebert** *Silent Night* and **Frank** and **Fritz** *Die Tote Stadt* (Calgary Opera); **Posa** *Don Carlos* and title role ***Don Giovanni*** (Vancouver Opera); title role ***Wozzeck*** (Bolshoi Theatre of Moscow); **Zurga** *Les pêcheurs de perles*, **Dandini** *La Cenerentola* and **Sharpless** *Madama Butterfly* (Seattle Opera and Vancouver Opera); and **Papageno** *Die Zauberflöte* (Cincinnati Opera). He originated the role of **Prospero** in Anthony Bolton's *Island of Dreams* at Grange Park Opera.

Equally at ease on the concert platform, he has appeared with almost every major orchestra in the USA and Canada and several in Europe, performing repertoire including Zemlinsky's *Lyrische Symphonie* (Orchestre Métropolitain); the world premiere of Jeffrey Ryan's *Afghanistan: Requiem for a Generation* (Vancouver Symphony Orchestra); Mahler's *Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen* (City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra); and Ravel's *L'heure espagnole* (BBC Proms). He also sang **Richard Brown** in the world premiere concert of Kevin Puts's *The Hours* with the Philadelphia Orchestra conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin.

Polegato's discography shifts as seamlessly through genres as his live appearances. His recordings include Vaughan Williams's *A Sea Symphony* (Grammy Award winner, Best Classical Recording), his acclaimed solo disc *To A Poet* (CBC Records), an Analekta-Fleur de Lys disc of Bach's popular *Coffee and Peasant Cantatas* with the Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, a live period-instrument performance of Handel's *Messiah* under Andrew Parrott, Emmerich Kálmán's *Die Herzogin von Chicago* with the Berlin Radio Symphony Orchestra (Decca), and Gluck's *Armide* with Les Musiciens du Louvre (Deutsche Grammophon Archiv Produktion).